

House Memorial 22 – Page 2

- The positive impact of Big Brothers Big Sisters has proved that one adult caring for one child is the most powerful force to keep young people in school, off drugs and alcohol and out of trouble with the law.
- New Mexico's Big Brothers Big Sisters programs and its school-based partners have grown twice as fast as the national average, increasing the number of youth matched with adults by nearly sixty percent; to three thousand one hundred big-little matches in the past year.
- With waiting lists for all of its programs and a torrent of requests from unserved counties in New Mexico, the Big Brothers Big Sisters programs in New Mexico are committed to bringing its life changing program to all children in the state, regardless of where they reside.

The Memorial further resolves to recognize the invaluable contributions of the Big Brothers Big Sisters program by declaring Tuesday, February 13, 2007, as "Big Brothers Big Sisters Youth Mentoring Day" at the New Mexico House of Representatives.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The non-profit Big Brothers Big Sisters program is the largest provider of one-to-one youth mentoring services in the United States. They have been bringing caring adults into the lives of the nation's children for nearly 100 years. The children served range in age from 5 to 17 years of age; and, 95% are from single parent households and 95% are from low income families.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Tuesday, February 13, 2007, will not be set aside in the New Mexico House of Representatives in honor and recognition of the Big Brothers Big Sisters programs.

AHO/nt